

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claim 3 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, but is not otherwise amended. New claims 5-19 have been added by the present amendment. The new claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed (see, e.g., page 5, line 15 to page 6, line 5; page 7, lines 1-12; page 28, lines 12-15; and FIGS. 3, 11, 12, 14, and 16).

As an initial matter, regarding the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed with the application on August 2, 2001, it is noted that the subject matter of document A-08500915 (Japanese Publication 8-500915) is included in PCT International Publication No. WO 95/01701, which was published based on PCT International Application No. PCT/IB94/00176. Therefore, the subject matter of Japanese Publication 8-500915 is already of record in this case. Accordingly, it is not necessary for Applicants to resubmit Japanese Publication 8-500915 in another IDS.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The phrase "the vertical synchronization interval" of claim 3, line 7 was indicated as being indefinite because "it could refer to the current vertical synchronization interval or the previous vertical synchronization interval" (Office Action, Page 3). Claim 3 has been amended to recite "current vertical synchronization interval," thereby obviating the rejection. As stated in the specification (see, e.g., page 19, lines 6-9), the data value supplied a second time is identical to the data value of the current image signal, i.e., from the current vertical synchronization interval. It is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2001/0038369 to Adachi et al. (hereinafter "Adachi"). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adachi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

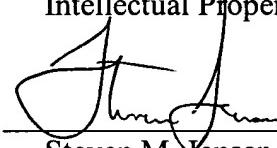
Attached hereto is an English-language translation of Japanese Application 2000-235633 ("the '633 application"), to which the present application claims priority. The Applicants' claimed invention is fully described and enabled by the '633 application (see English-language translation). Also, the '633 application has an earlier filing date (August 3, 2000) than the filing date of the Adachi reference (March 28, 2001). Under MPEP 706.02(b), because the Applicants have filed an English-language translation of the priority document, and thus perfected a foreign priority claim under 35 USC 119 to the '633 application, the Adachi reference does not qualify as prior art under 35 USC 102(e).

As explained above, Applicants have perfected their foreign priority claim to the '633 application, which has an earlier filing date than the Adachi reference. The priority document satisfies the enablement and written description requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph; therefore, the Adachi reference is not prior art to the present application.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
Dike, Bronstein, Roberts & Cushman
Intellectual Property Practice Group

Date: December 4, 2003
By: 
Steven M. Jensen
(Reg. No. 42,693)

Phone: (617) 439-4444

P.O. Box 9169
Boston, MA 02209

Customer No. 21874